FAMILY LIFE

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FARM MARRIAGES ARE THE HAPPIEST

Survey of 3,528 marriages indicates that those of persons connected with agriculture are happier than any others.

Information concerning these marriages was furnished by hundreds of students at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, and the Colorado State College of Education, Greeley. They were instructed to list only marriages which were known to them so intimately that they could express an opinion about the happiness of the partners with confidence, and to take only those that had lasted five years or more. This latter restriction was necessary to give the marriage time to become stabilized. Any marriage might present the appearance of happiness while still in the honeymoon stage, but might deteriorate later. On the other hand, the five-year requirement eliminated many short-lived marriages that had already failed and gone into the divorce court.

Among these 3528 marriages, 2029 or 57.5% were rated as definitely happy, without any qualifications. Another 666 (18.9%) were set down as doubtful, while 833 (23.6%) were considered definitely unhappy.

To judge by other experience, some of the doubtfuls will later improve enough to justify being called happy. Others in this group will fail completely. It is impossible to predict how many of these will improve, but if they are divided arbitrarily and one-half assigned to each of the other categories, there will be 67% of the marriages happy, 33% unhappy, in the long run. This is believed to be a reasonable guess, but it is of course wholly speculative. In any event, a defnite majority of all the marriages must be listed as happy.

The marriages were distributed in seven groups according to the occupation of the husband, following the familiar classification of F. W. Taussig. The percentage of happiness in each of these groups was compared with that of the farmers, and the Critical Ratio calculated. This CR is a statistical test of whether the difference is likely to be real or merely the result of chance or too small a sample. If the CR is 3 or more, the difference is generally considered significant.

Following is the distribution:

I. Professional, 1006 of whom 614 (61%) happy, 173 doubtful, 219 unhappy, with CR 2.4.

II. Semi-professional and business, (a) higher group, 594 of whom 350 (59%) happy, 125 doubtful, and 119

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unhappy, with CR 2.9.

III. Semi-professional and business (b) lower group, 687 of whom 376 (54.7%) happy, 144 doubtful, 167 unhappy, with CR 4.3.

IV. Agriculture, 420 of whom 284 (67.6%) happy, 68 doubtful, and 68 unhappy.

V. Skilled labor, 400 of whom 218 (54.5%) happy, 77 doubtful, and 105 unhappy, with CR 4.0.

VI. Semi-skilled and partly skilled labor, 199, of whom 94 (47.2%) happy, 36 doubtful, and 69 unhappy, with CR 5.0.

VII. Unskilled labor, 222 of whom 93 (41.9%) happy, 43 doubtful, and 86 unhappy, with CR 6.4.

These findings are in line with common knowledge that the divorce rate is lower in rural areas than in the cities. In the strata of unskilled and partly skilled labor, desertion and separation sometimes play almost as great a part as divorce in the break-up of homes. In a rough way the success of marriage tends to increase with the amount of education of the partners.

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NOTES FROM THE AIFR

Compelled by rapidly expanding activities to find more room, the AIFR has left the offices which it occupied for the past 17 years. It has purchased a two-story building of its own, with 14 rooms well adapted to its many lines of work, 5287 Sunset Boulevard (corner of Hobart Boulevard), Los Angeles 27, Calif.

The AIFR is currently offering seminars in both introductory and advanced counseling, and will carry on 12-week seminars in each of these subjects during the summer.

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FAMILY RECORDS

Family record books of various types, that have been assembled by the San Diego (Calif.) County Coordinating Council are:

My Record Book, by James R. McManus, 45 Broad St., Hamilton, N. Y.

My Autobiography, by June Heald. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N. J.

My Record of My Children, Keating Publishing Co., 200 Varick St., New York, N. Y.

Our Family, by Oliver R. Williamson, Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pa.

Log o'Life, by Lawrence L. Foley and Charles P. McMillen. McMillen-Foley Pub. Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

Our Family, by Edwina K. Hegland. Dodge Pub. Co., New York, N. Y.

Our Family Record, by C. R. Gibson & Co., Norwalk, Conn.

The Personal Record of————, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, N. Y.

Kenneth S. Beam, director of the San Diego County Coordinating Council, is working out a more scientifically organized form for maintaining personal and family records.

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THE QUESTION BOX

What is the average age of marriage in the United States?

Answer: For native whites, the federal census bureau says the average age of first marriages is 25 for men, 22 for women.

PATHFINDERS FOR "THE LOST SEX"

Year by year, the civilized world is becoming more neurotic and unhappy, and women are largely to blame, say Ferdinand Lundberg and Marynia F. Farnham in "Modern Woman: the Lost Sex" (pp. 496, price $3.50 from Harper & Bros., New York 16, N. Y., 1947.)

Like many other writers, they attribute woman's difficulties largely to the Industrial Revolution. This took the family out of the home, built up large cities with migratory populations, and made money the yardstick of success. Women, to be successful, must make money. They could make money only by taking the sorts of jobs that men took. So the bewildered housewife left the comforts, the creative arts, the organic satisfactions of her home and went out to find a "career" as a wage-slave, assuring herself that this was a great advance for her,—a real "emancipation," indeed, —because she was now more like a man.

For such a "career" she had to give up children as well as home, in many cases. In still more she had to give up sexual normality, for she could not function successfully as a woman if she felt, unconsciously, that it was a misfortune to be a woman!

"The feminist movement, which sought to have women considered the absolute equal of men, was misguided and led by neurotic women, and failed to give women anything valid. Women are still attempting desperately to find a compromise for the home of which they were deprived." The whole female sex, in short, has become so confused and badly adjusted that it can not help transmitting to its children, boys and girls alike, its own disordered emotions. Hence the widespread increase in personality difficulties.

All this is familiar ground, but it is surveyed by Mr. Lundberg (a writer and lecturer on social and economic subjects) and Dr. Farnham (a psychiatrist and herself the mother of two children) with an extraordinary wealth of detail, both analytical and statistiscal. Exception may be taken on many points, but the weight of the whole indictment is crushing.

What can be done about it? The authors face this question in their last chapter:

1. The reconstruction of the home will include adequate family allowances in some form, but must be based particularly on a new appreciation and open recognition of women's real contribution. "Society must make it possible for her to satisfy her healthy ego aims without sacrificing her instinctive desire for motherhood or the needs of her children." Mothers should have a larger role in the education of children,—indeed, a teacher's certificate should not be given to an unmarried woman. More part-time employment should be made available to wives and mothers. The whole field of home economics should be re-evaluated and revised.

2. A Federal Department of Welfare should devote itself to serving women who live as women,—that is, women as mothers. It would be fatal to turn this department over to the

type of woman now occupying most government posts, the authors assert, —these have "too often not been psychologically qualified to speak for either women or children, for their point of view on the whole is the very one we have been attacking." Such a Department would use every means to "restore women's sense of prestige and self-esteem as women, actual or potential mothers." Miseducation must be corrected and solid public honors must be awarded to women who are functioning as women rather than as imitation men. The average successful mother is making a greater contribution to human welfare than is the average man.

3. Both long-term and short-term therapy must be widely used to stem the present tide of psychic illness.

Finally, "just as women should obtain status and prestige through motherhood, men should obtain it fundamentally by fatherhood. Bachelors of more than 30, unless physically deficient, should be encouraged to undergo psychotherapy."

"A program such as we have sketched," they declare, "far from dividing men and women, would weld them closer together, would tend to make them complementary partners in a co-operative enterprise rather than competitors, as at present, in a jungle like struggle with the child buffeted between them."

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RESEARCH NOTES

More than 50,000 children are adopted in the U. S. each year, only one-third of them through child-placing agencies.

Sexually promiscuous girls differ in many ways from normal girls of the same age, says R. D. Weitz after comparing 500 St. Louis girls infected with venereal diseases, and 225 girls who applied for work through the USES. The sexually promiscuous girls were scholastically retarded, were found mostly in unskilled jobs, and had difficulty in holding any job long. (Journal of Applied Psychology, 1946)

Male sexual offenders are also alcoholic addicts to a large extent, L. H. Loeser reports from a study of 270 treated in army hospitals. Two percent of them were diagnosed as suffering from chronic alcoholism, 35% admitted excessive use of alcohol, 46.5% were considered to be moderate drinkers, while 16.5% were abstainers. "True homosexuals constituted 78% of the group." (American Journal of Psychiatry, 1945.)

Umbilical hernia is remarkably common among Africans in Tanganyika, N. K. Mack observes. He found it in 60% of 132 infants under one year of age, compared with about 4% among Asiatics in the same area and regards it as "a racial hereditary characteristic." About 90% heal spontaneously. (East African Medical Journal, 1945.)

Women in the United States have greater prospects of marriage than those in any other western country, and also marry earlier. Among girls 15 to 19 years of age, 12% are already married compared with 1% in pre-war Germany, Irish Free State, and Norway. (Statistical Bulletin, Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., Feb., 1947.)

"Expansion of the female labor force since 1940 has been accompanied by a sharp rise in the number of families in which both husband and wife are in the labor market," says the Federal

Bureau of the Census. Such families in February, 1946, numbered 6,070,000—about two million more than in April, 1940. "Mothers of school age children were in the labor market in greater proportions in February, 1946, than were mothers of children below school age."

Only 8 women in every 100 in the labor force are working "solely because they like to work," the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor reports.

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EDUCATIONAL NOTES

Counseling techniques will be emphasized in the Institute on Family Life Education at the University of Cincinnati, June 23 to 28 inclusive. This joint undertaking of the American Institute of Family Relations and the Cincinnati Social Hygiene Association is fully accredited. It will be directed by Roy E. Dickerson and Paul Popenoe. For detailed prospectus of the offering, write to the American Institute of Family Relations. For information as to terms, credits, living accommodations, and the like, write to the Director of the Summer Session, University of Cincinnati.

Edited by Ernest W. Burgess and Morris Fishbein, a manual of marriage counseling will be published by Doubleday and Company this fall. Forty experts are contributing chapters to it.

Home economics celebrated its fiftieth anniversary at Michigan State College on May 2-3.

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INEXPENSIVE PAMPHLETS

PLAN YOUR FAMILY SPENDING FOR HAPPINESS, by Elsie Stapleton. Pp. 20, free on request to Institute of Life Insurance, 60 E. 42d St., New York 17, N. Y.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN THE U. S. TODAY, papers from a symposium. Price 15c from American Social Hygiene Assn., 1790 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.

HOME PLAY and play equipment for the preschool child. Pp. 20, price 10c (Children's Bureau Pub. No. 238) from Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

"THE HAVE-MORE" PLAN, by Ed and Carolyn Robinson, price $1 from the authors, P.O. Box 7, Noroton, Conn. Methods of enriching family living by suburban "miniature farming."

TEN SUGGESTIONS FOR ENRICHING FAMILY LIFE, by Charlotte and Paul Reynolds, 4-p. folder free from Division of Christian Education of the Congregational Chrsitian Churches, 19 S. La Salle St., Chicago 3, Ill.

CONFERENCE ON THE FAMILY TODAY, mimeographed report obtainable from Dept. of Parent Education and Family Religion, Board of Education of the Methodist Church, 810 Broadway, Nashville 2, Tenn.

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HAPPY AT HOME!

Ninety percent of Canadian housewives enjoy home-making,—so they told the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion (Feb. 22, 1947.) When asked, "How do you feel about your work? Do you enjoy it, find it fairly interesting, or not interesting at all?" they answered:

Enjoy it	59%
Fairly interesting	31
Not interesting	8
Not actively occupied	2
	100%

DR. ARTHUR COONS . . . .

President of Occidental College, Los Angeles. A world authority on economics. Is President of the Western College Association and also of the Educational Film Research Institute. Is the author of a number of books and articles on social and economic subjects and has taught in several colleges.

DR. LYNN T. WHITE, Jr. . . . .

President of Mills College, Oakland. Has taught at Princeton and Stanford. In recent years he has been concerned with the history of science and technology in relation to social and intellectual change. Served on the Executive Committee of the Stanford School of Humanities.

DR. PAUL POPENOE . . . .

Director of the American Institute of Family Relations, also former lecturer in biology at the University of Southern California. Is nationally known as a writer and lecturer on problems of marriage and family life. His seminars in the art of counselling are widely known.

HON. S. S. HAHN . . . .

Attorney-at-Law with a long and respected practice covering domestic relations problems. Has been prominently identified with civic movements and undertakings for social betterment. Authority on juvenile delinquency. Studied law at University of Southern California.

DR. RAY E. BABER . . . .

Head of the Department of Sociology at Pomona College, Claremont. Has taught at New York University and the University of Illinois. Has studied family and population problems all over the world. Author of *Marriage and the Family,* a standard college textbook. (McGraw-Hill)

FRANCES BRUCE STRAIN . . . .

A pioneer in the study of family relationships and sex education. Mrs. Strain is the author of "New Patterns in Sex Teaching," which won the Parents' Magazine award for 1935. She is a Lecturer in Physical Education at the University of Southern California.

DR. GORDON CHAPMAN . . .

Minister of the Westwood Community Methodist Church. He is a graduate of Depauw University and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the University of Southern California, where he made a name for himself in the field of premarital counseling.

MRS. JAMES K. LYTLE . . .

Member of the California Social Service Commission and the Advisory Board of Youth Authority. Long Affiliated with the Parent-Teacher organization — 2 years as State President. Also served eight years on the L. A. Board of Education. Prominent and successful church worker.

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on the subject of

DIVORCE

Conducted by

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Colleges Can Help Reduce the Divorce Rate.....DR. LYNN T. WHITE, JR.
President Mills College

Raise a Bigger Crop of Good Husbands.....DR. PAUL POPENOE
Director The American Institute of Family Relations

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Afternoon Session Convenes at 2 o'clock

MRS. JAMES K. LYTLE, *Presiding*

Strengthen the Weak Spots in Our Marriage Philosophy.....DR. RAY E. BABER
Professor of Sociology, Pomona College

Preparation for Marriage Should Begin in Childhood.....FRANCIS BRUCE STRAIN
Author and Lecturer

The Churches Must Be Heard.....DR. GORDON CHAPMAN
Pastor Westwood Community Church

A Plan for Immediate Action.....MRS. JAMES K. LYTLE
Prominent Club Woman

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NEW BOOKS IN BRIEF REVIEW

THE PROBLEM OF FERTILITY, ed. by Earl T. Engle. Pp. 254, price $3.75 from Princeton University Press, Princeton, N. J., 1946.

Although dealing primarily with experiments on other animals, the papers presented at the Conference on Fertility sponsored by the National Committee on Maternal Health last year, and here published, offer many interesting suggestions for dealing with sterility in human marriages. Several of the speakers mentioned that childless marriages were often "cured" merely by getting husband and wife out into the country in a more normal environment, and putting them on a normal diet. It was reported that a hormone which would cause a woman to ovulate might be available within a few years. This has long been sought; if a woman's ovaries could be made to release an egg cell whenever desired, the problem of starting a pregnancy would be much simplified. Several speakers touched on the production of babies by artificial insemination,—"test-tube babies" in the language of the Sunday Supplements; now often called "cases of semi-adoption" where spermatazoa are taken from some other man than the woman's husband. It has always been recognized that identity of the real father should be concealed. One obstetrician reported that he labeled specimens merely A, B, and C, and had no way of knowing afterward who had furnished them. Another uses specimens from two different donors each time, so that even he has no idea which was the father, if a pregnancy follows. While such procedures are valuable in preventing identification of the father later, they are a hindrance to the wisest selection of a father from a eugenic point of view.

TRAITE DE CARACTEROLOGIE, by Rene Le Senne. Pp. 649, price f.300 from Presses Universitaires de France, 108 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris, 1946.

In this monumental work a leading French psychologist, professor at the Sorbonne, discusses the various systems which have been proposed to classify human beings on the basis of their mental make-up and behavior, and then develops one of his own, based partly on the earlier work of Heymanns and Wiersma in Holland. The various types,—nervous, sentimental, choleric, passionate, sanguine, phlegmatic, amorphic, and apathetic, —are described in detail with innumerable illustrations from historical personages, and the book ends with a still more minute analysis of the personality of Alfred de Vigny.

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AROUND THE WORLD

HOME MAGAZINE, published (in Chinese) in Shanghai, now has a circulation of 8,000, which is considered good in present upset conditions in that country. It deals with love, marriage, woman, home, home economics, mental hygiene, sex education, child guidance, applied psychology, and related subjects. The editor and publisher is Huang Chia-Yin, who has translated and printed much of the American Institute of Family Relations material.

Family life finds special recognition in the constitution of the republic of

FAMILY LIFE

El Salvador, as in many others. Ar
60 declares that "The family, as
fundamental basis of the nation,
be especially protected by the st

Uruguay has adopted a Bill
Rights for women, which gives t
legal rights equal to those of men
every respect, puts the wife on t
same footing as the husband, require
both partners to contribute to the e
penses of the home in proportion
their means, and allows divorce b
mutual consent "without presentati
of reasons."

While Poland, like most of the
ropean countries that felt the b
of the war, now has a surplus po
lation of women (117 to each
men), the Jewish population of Pol
has only 84 women for each 100 m
This is attributed to the fact that
Nazis were more willing to save
ish men in order to use them as s
laborers, and also to the fact that
were more able to escape across
border in 1939.

Denmark has had since 1929 a
providing for the eugenic steriliza
of persons likely to produce ment
defective offspring. Nearly 4,000 o
ations have been performed to c
says Tage Kemp of the University
stitute for Human Genetics, Cop
hagen. Since 1938 the Institute
kept up a card index covering
families in the kingdom which h
any hereditary affliction. (Euge
Review, Jan., 1947.)

Alberta has attained the lowest
ternal death rate in the history
Canada, with its policy of free
ternity hospitalization, which cost
government $675,000 in 1945. T
average confinement is 10 days, a
96% of all births now take place

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508. MATURITY AND OLD AGE INDICATOR, by Christopher Ruess; set includes 2 Questionnaires, 1 Report Sheet, 1 set Scoring Devices, 1 Instruction Sheet with references to bibliography on old age counselling. Sold separately, 2 Questionnaires, 15c; 10 or more at 5c each; 1 Report Sheet, 10c; 10 or more at 4c; 1 set Scoring Devices, 75c; 1 Instruction Sheet, 10c; 10 or more at 4c. For use in detecting elements of psychological old age any time after 30, and in preventing development of same. As a commencement the counsellor will want the complete set $1.00

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MISCELLANEOUS

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